

Minutes of the
DESY Customer Meeting
Held at CMS, July 29, 2003

Attendees: Phone/Video: Elizabeth Axelrod (Abt Associates, Inc), Debra and Barb (ResDAC), Erin Frantangelo, David Phillips (Albany NY OIG), Dr. Miriam Campbell (Boston), Rick Andrews (CSC), Cindy Myers (Denver), Nazmul (Mathmatica), May Wang (Boston), Lea (Region 10)

CMS: Jack Fletcher, Roseanne Dean, Brian Baranoski, Cheryl Morris, Helen Nort, Izzy Oppenheimer, Rosemary Thommen, Linda Moscoe, Joe Brenner, and Walt Dunick

VIPS: Karen Garrison, Cheryl Mitchell, Don Flohr, and Michelle Berman

Opening Statement

Jack Fletcher, DESY Project Manager, opened the monthly meeting by welcoming everyone. This meeting was recorded for note taking purposes.

Operations

* The highlights of DESY's processing are:

- o 450+ requests in process one month ago. Now 350+ requests in process.
- o 50 NCH requests over 30 days, 30 for 2002 and 20 for 2001. Working hard to reduce the backlog.
- o 90 requests completed last week.
- o 600 million records written.
- o HIPAA compliant, 1 billion records are now PAD recorded since April.
- o No SAF requests over 30 days.
- o The Data Center continues to run more DESY jobs at a time.

Future Enhancements

- * Gathering requirements for the next DESY release.
- * Some changes at CMS may affect DESY including Prescription drug plan that is coming. Could impact the volume of data that is stored and queried.
- * Dual eligibility identification.
- * MSIS Granular database - link key tables being designed as MMX (Medicare Medicaid Cross reference file).
- * Allow DESY to access the new MMX using the Cross Reference finder file.
- * Add DESY access to the MSIS Granular data. 1999 - 2002 available data first. Includes five types of Medicaid data.
- * SSN to Hicans, SSN to MSIS IDs.
- * Add DESY access to MBD enrollment data.
- * Ideally DESY would allow one question and return the data from the appropriate files. Currently, the requests must be entered separately against each data file available.
- * The next DESY major release includes access to MSIS and MBD.
- * An interim DESY release is planned before year-end:
 - o Includes Limited Datasets that currently would have gone through the privacy review board by spacing out true personal identifiers and providing the DESY sort key as the unique identifier. Limited Datasets will require new formats and are based on data use agreements. Beneficiary Encrypted Files (BEFs) will still be available but require the privacy review board process. This may affect government agencies such as DAO, DOJ and OIG and others getting access

to Beneficiary Encrypted Files going forward.

- o Allow HICAN conversion to RRB.

- o Adding business rules to some selection fields such as including/excluding Claim Denials. Will work similar to the live/dead selection when using Beneficiary Death Date as a selection variable.

- o Expanding Boolean logic for the selection criteria to include OR. Currently DESY allows up to 20 variables with values. One value can have a finder file as its value. The other variables allow up to 10 values. Values are always treated as an OR condition and the variables are treated as an AND condition. This will be expanded to allow two conditions that can be OR'ed. Each condition will continue to have the above rules. Example: select based on condition 1 OR condition 2.

- o Not Equal logic will be allowed for a specific set of fields.

Questions

Q: Will Medicaid data have state only files?

A: The DESY group is in a learning process about the Medicaid data but it is a safe assumption that selections will be state based. Doesn't look like selections could apply nationwide. Multi-state selection could come later, but not initially.

Q: Will Medicaid data years be grouped by service date or by payment date?

A: MSIS granular file physical structure is by payment date but requests may be able to occur by service date. Service date could adversely affect request turnaround. MAX files are planned to be oriented by service data.

Q: What are granular files?

A: The granular file is the MSIS raw data of state valid files. There also are MSIS Data mart files that are aggregated summary files and MSIS Warehouse files that will be oriented by service date for MAX requirements.

Q: Will DESY have only the MSIS granular files or will the MAX files also be available?

A: Initially DESY will have the MSIS granular files but ultimately MAX files also.

Q: Will Boolean logic, Denials, and Not Equal logic be part of the next major release or the interim release?

A: These will be included in the next DESY Interim release.

Q: Is any Medicaid data being captured for things such as additional state specific services?

A: Plan information comes in on the eligibility file from the states each quarter. Plan ID might be a way to determine the services in a plan. May be able to derive cost information for services from multiple files such as eligibility and claims files.

Note: Jack encouraged users to continue to provide input to the requirements for DESY as well as asking questions about results they've gotten from DESY. Even if a question about DESY results ends up resulting in the user submitting a new request because the original one was not put together properly to get the expected results. This helps improve the process on both sides and catch errors in DESY that do occasionally occur.

The next customer meeting will be August 26, 2003 at 11 am.
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